

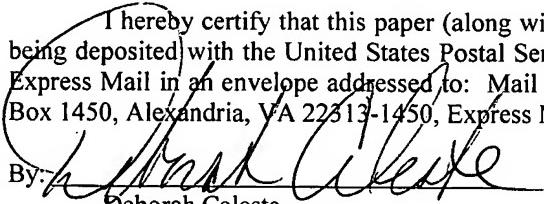
April 1, 2004
Docket: 0020.0001.con

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re:	Nikolai Ivanovich Balin and Aleksandr Petrovich Demchenko	Patent Application Confirmation No: Not Yet Assigned
Serial No:	Not Yet Assigned	Group: Not Yet Assigned
Filed:	HEREWITH	Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
For:	Liquid Level Measuring Device	

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAIL

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, Express Mail Label No: EV 413602773 US

By: 
Deborah Celeste

4-1-04

Date

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- under 37 CFR 1.129(a), or
(First/Second submission after Final Rejection)
- under 37 CFR 1.97(b), or
(Within any one of the following time periods: three months of filing national application (other than a CPA) or date of entry of the national stage in an international application; or before the mailing date of a first office action on the merits in a non-provisional application, including a CPA, or a Request for Continued Examination).
- under 37 CFR 1.97(c) together with either:
 a Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e), as checked below, or
 a \$180.00 fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p), or
(After the 37 CFR 1.97(b) time period, but before final action or notice of allowance, whichever occurs first)
- under 37 CFR 1.97(d) together with:
 a Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e), as checked below, and
 a \$180.00 fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p), or
(Filed after final action or notice of allowance, whichever occurs first, but on or before payment of the issue fee)

- [] under 37 CFR 1.97(i):
Applicant requests that the IDS and cited reference(s) be placed in the application filewrapper.
(Filed after payment of issue fee)

Statement Under 37 CFR 1.97(e)

- [] Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement; or
- [] No item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned, after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Statement Under 37 CFR 1.704(d) (Patent Term Adjustment)

Applies to original applications (other than design) filed on or after May 29, 2000

- [] Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

- [X] Enclosed herewith is form PTO-1449:

- [X] Copies of the cited references are enclosed.
- [] References cited were entered in prior application, U.S. Application No. , to which priority under 35 U.S.C. 120 is claimed. [The earlier application contains copies of the cited references.]
- [X] The listed references were cited in the enclosed International Search Report in a counterpart foreign application.
- [X] The "concise explanation" requirement (non-English references) for reference(s) FR2 672 678 and SU599203 under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3) is satisfied by:
- [] the explanation provided on the attached sheet.
- [] the explanation provided in the Specification.
- [X] submission of the enclosed International Search Report.
- [] submission of the enclosed English-language version of a foreign Search Report and/or foreign Office Action.
- [] the enclosed English language abstract.

- [] ^{Examiner's Initials} Applicant requests that the following non-published pending applications be considered:

April 1, 2004
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- ____ U.S. Patent Application No. [], by [inventor(s)], filed [], Docket No.: []
____ U.S. Patent Application No. [], by [inventor(s)], filed [], Docket No.: []
____ U.S. Patent Application No. [], by [inventor(s)], filed [], Docket No.: []

Examiner Date

- [] A copy of each above-cited application, including the current claims, is enclosed.
[] A copy of each above-cited application, including the current claims, is enclosed, except those entered in prior application, U.S. Application No. [], to which priority under 35 U.S.C. 120 is claimed.

The Examiner is requested to return a copy of the above list of pending applications indicating which references were considered with the next office communication.

It is requested that the information disclosed herein be made of record in this application.

Method of payment:

- [] A check for the fee noted above is enclosed, or the fee has been included in the check with the accompanying Reply. A copy of this Statement is enclosed.
[] Please charge Deposit Account 502 233 in the amount of \$[]. A copy of this Statement is enclosed.
[] Please charge any deficiency in fees and credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 502 233.
[X] No fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,

By Maria Eliseeva
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Dated: April 1, 2004

U.S. Small Business Administration, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO		Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Application Number	Not Yet Assigned
		Filing Date	Herewith
		First Named Inventor	Nikolai Ivanovich Balin
		Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned
		Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
		Attorney Docket Number	0020.0001.con
Sheet	1	of	1

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1

of 1

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		FR 2 672 678	08/14/1992	Phillippe		
		SU 599203	03/25/1978	Brazhnikov		

Examiner Signature _____ **Date Considered** _____

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.4. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.